

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
)  
TAKAMOTO et al. )  
)  
Application Number: To Be Assigned )  
)  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
)  
For: A METHOD AND STORAGE SYSTEM THAT ENABLE )  
SHARING FILES AMONG MULTIPLE SERVERS )



Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted herewith.

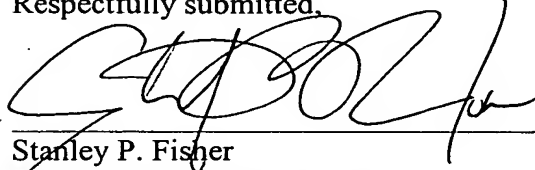
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted with the initial application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

10/031381  
JC Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 JAN 2002

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO 1449  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	ATTY. DOCKET NUMBER NITT.0054	SERIAL NUMBER 10/031381 To Be Assigned
	APPLICANT TAKAMOTO et al.	
	FILING DATE Concurrently Herewith	GROUP JG18 rec'd PCT/PTO 18 JAN 2002

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBC CLASS	FILING DATE

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	FILING DATE	COUNTRY	CLAS S	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	09-325905	6/4/96	Japan			Abstract	X
	09-179758	12/25/95	Japan			Abstract	X

**Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant*